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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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R 220452Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3342 INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CONFIDENTIAL SINGAPORE 3637

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT, SN

SUBJ: CAMPUS AGITATOR ARRESTED

- 1. CALM WHICH HAS PREVAILED AT UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE CAMPUS SINCE LAST DECEMBER'S OUTBURST OF ACTIVISM WAS RUFFLED ON AUGUST 17 WHEN POLICE ARRESTED A "MASKED INTRUDER" FOR DISTRIBUTING UNAUTHORIZED LEAFLETS. THE INTRUDER, ALLEGED TO BE A BRITISH UNIVERSITY STUDENT, WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THREE COMPATRIOTS WHO FLED BEFORE POLICE ARRIVED (UK HIGH COMMISSIONER TRIPP TOLD AMBASSADOR AUGUST 19 THAT ARRESTEE WAS IN FACT BRITISH, BUT THAT UK HIGH COMMISSION HAD NOT YET BEEN DRAWN INTO THE MATTER).
- 2. LEAFLETS WERE ALLEGEDLY SIGNED BY TSUI HON KWONG, HONG KONG STUDENT ACTIVIST WHO WENT UNDERGROUND LAST DECEMBER AFTER GOS ORDERED HIS EXPULSION. UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE STUDENTS UNION (USSU) SPOKESMAN CLAIMED THAT LEAFLETS WERE NOT ACTUALLY SIGNED BY TSUI AND CONTAINED "STRONG STATEMENTS WHICH ARE DANGEROUS AND MISCHIEVOUS TO THE UNION AND ARE AIMED AT PITCHING VARSITY STUDENT LEADERS AGAINST ONE ANOTHER." USSU SPOKESMAN DEMANDED THAT UNIVERSITY INVESTIGATE INCIDENT AND PRESS CHARGES AGAINST INTRUDER.
- 3. IN APPARENT COINCIDENCE, TSUI HONG KWONG WAS ARRESTED AUGUST CONFIDENTIAL

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19 IN JOHOR BAHRU (ACROSS CAUSEWAY FROM SINGAPORE) BY MALAYSIAN

POLICE FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY (LACK OF TRAVEL DOCUMENT) AND IS CURRENTLY IN CUSTODY OF MALAYSIAN IMMIGRATION.

4. COMMENT: USSU'S QUICK MOVE TO CONDEMN THE INTRUDERS AS AGENTS PROVOCATEURS WAS PRESUMABLY INFLUENCED BY FOREIGN MINISTER RAJARATNAM'S STRONG STATEMENTS LAST YEAR ON "NON-COMMUNIST SUBVERSION" AND DANGERS OF INTERFERENCE BY NON-SINGAPOREANS IN LOCAL POLITICS. BY DISASSOCIATING ITSELF FROM INVOLVEMENT WITH FOREIGN STUDENT ACTIVISTS, USSU PROBABLY HOPES TO AVOID BEING BRANDED BY GOS AS A PROXY FOR VAGUELY DEFINED "OUTSIDE INTERESTS". HOLDRIDGE

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